LISTING OF CLAIMS

Although none of the claims are being amended, for the convenience of the Examiner, the following is a listing of all pending claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for detecting the presence of urease in a gastrointestinal system comprising:

providing a sample of gastric material from a patient;

contacting said gastric material with a first powdered composition comprising urea, said urea being converted into ammonia when contacted with urease;

thereafter contacting said gastric material with a second composition comprising an indicator, wherein, when ammonia is present, said indicator indicates the presence of ammonia thereby indicating the presence of urease in said gastric material.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said urea has a mean particle size of less than 0.1 mm.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said first powdered composition further comprises an anti-caking agent.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said second composition comprises a gel.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said second composition comprises agar in addition to said indicator.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said indicator comprises a pH indicator that changes color when the pH is increased.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said urea has a mean particle size of less than about 0.05 mm.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said first powdered composition and said second composition are positioned in the same container in a spaced apart relationship.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said second composition further comprises a bactericide or a bacteristat.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said indicator comprises phenol red.

11. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said second composition further comprises a pH adjuster.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 2, wherein said second composition further comprises agar and a pH adjuster.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said gastric material is contacted with said first powdered composition such that at least a portion of the urea is combined with the gastric material prior to being contacted with said second composition.

14. (Previously Presented) A method for detecting the presence of urease in a gastrointestinal system comprising:

providing a sample of a gastric biopsy material from a patient;

contacting said gastric material with a first composition comprising urea, said urea being converted into ammonia when contacted with urease;

thereafter contacting said gastric biopsy material with a second composition comprising an indicator contained in a gel, wherein, when ammonia is present, said indicator changes color for indicating the presence of urease in said gastric material.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 14, wherein said urea is present as a powder in said first composition.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 15, wherein said second composition further comprises agar and a pH adjuster, and wherein said indicator comprises phenol red.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 14, wherein said gastric material is contacted with said first composition such that at least a portion of the urea is combined with the gastric material prior to being contacted with said second composition.

18. (Previously Presented) A method for detecting the presence of urease in a gastrointestinal system comprising:

providing a sample of gastric material from a patient;

contacting said gastric material with a composition comprising a powdered urea and a dry indicator, said urea being converted into ammonia when contacted with

urease and wherein, when ammonia is produced, said indicator indicates the presence of ammonia thereby indicating the presence of urease in said gastric material.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 18, wherein said urea present within said composition has a mean particle size of less than about 0.1 mm.

20. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 18, wherein said urea present within said composition has a mean particle size of less than about 0.05 mm.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 18, wherein said composition further comprises an anti-caking agent.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 18, wherein said indicator comprises a pH indicator that changes color when the pH is increased.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of observing the second composition after contact with the gastric material to verify the presence or absence of urease in the gastric material.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 14, further comprising the step of observing the second composition after contact with the gastric material to verify the presence or absence of urease in the gastric material.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 18, further comprising the step of observing the composition after contact with the gastric material to verify the presence or absence of urease in the gastric material.